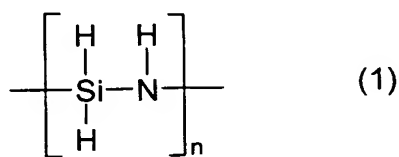


Amendment to the Specification

Please make of record the following Abstract:

A coating for metal surfaces, consisting of

a.) optionally a scratch-resistant perhydropolysilazane base coat and b.) an upper protective coat containing at least one perhydropolysilazane of the formula (1) and photocatalytic titanium dioxide (I)



wherein n is a whole number and n is dimensioned in such a way that the measured such that the perhydropolysilazane has a number-average molecular weight of from 150 to 150 000 g/mol. Preferably, the thickness of the protective layer is at least 1 micrometre, more preferably 2 to 20 micrometres. The invention also relates to a method for the production of a coating, in addition to the use thereof as a self-cleaning protective layer, particularly for the rims of automobiles.